

Ask the Chief of the Anna Police: A weekly column allowing readers access to useful information about law enforcement issues in the Anna area.

This column is the personal opinion of Kenny Jenks and is based on his 29+ years of policing experience. It is not necessarily the official opinion of the City of Anna or the Anna Police Department. If you wish to Email, include your name and address in the correspondence. Your information will be edited before sending it to print.

Dear Readers,

There have been several Emails regarding door-to-door salesmen or “Solicitors” operating in the Anna area. The City of Anna does restrict door-to-door solicitors by City Ordinance. You can access the Code of Ordinances under the government tab at the City’s website (www.annatexas.gov). Part II of the City Code contains the legislation that regulates Solicitors.

Generally speaking, a solicitor is required to have a Permit. But, the following are exempt from the City’s permit process: (1) public utility companies or others operating under a franchise granted by the City; (2) insurance salespeople, real estate salespeople and other **professionals licensed by the state** and acting in their professional capacities; (3) persons under the age of 13 participating in Solicitation related to children's activities, including but not limited to Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Big Brothers and Sisters, to the extent that they are actively supervised by a parent, guardian or other adult person, at least 18 years of age, who is responsible for the wellbeing and appropriate behavior of the child; and (4) Religious Organizations, Charitable Entities and political organizations and their representatives distributing information, handbills or pamphlets only for the purpose of communicating issues of general interest to the public (a donation received as a result of the distribution of information, handbills or pamphlets does not affect this exemption).

If a solicitor knocks at your door, you don’t have to talk to them or allow them to go through their sales pitch. If you do engage them in conversation, you should see a permit issued by the City. If they don’t readily show you one, they either do not have one or they are exempt from having one. Ask them. If they do not give you an answer you like, call us and we will dispatch an officer up there to investigate.

Reminder: Outdoor Storm Sirens Tested (weather permitting)
First Wednesday of the month @ 12 noon.

***Phone numbers: Dial 911 in an emergency.** To have a police officer sent to you in a non-emergency, call 972-547-5350. During normal business hours, the APD number is 972-924-2848.

If you have a question or comment, please email: kjenks@annatexas.gov